

Remarks

The Office Action constitutes a requirement for restriction, in response to which Applicants' elect the subject matter of Group I, i.e. claims 1-7 and 21-29, with traverse. This election is made while reserving Applicants' rights to under 35 U.S.C. §121 to file a divisional application for the non-elected subject matter of Groups II and III, i.e. claims 8-20 and 30-35.

Referring to item 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner states that the silsesquioxane derivative can be prepared by reacting a silicon compound of Formula (1) with a trialkoxysilane or a tribromosilane containing a functional group X. However, although the silsesquioxane derivative may be prepared by reacting a silicon compound of Formula (1) with a tribromosilane containing a functional group X, in Applicants' opinion the silsesquioxane derivative cannot be prepared from a silicon compound of Formula (1) and a trialkoxysilane.

In item 4 the Examiner states that Groups I and III are related as product and process of use. This seems inconsistent with item 3, where the Examiner characterizes Group I as a process of making.

Claim 1 has been amended to use "comprises" instead of "characterized by", and also to change "using" to "reacting", while incorporating Formula (3) from claim 6, as a result of which claim 6 has been cancelled.

Each of claims 2-4 has been amended to incorporate the definitions for M and X from claim 1, as well as to incorporate the proviso from the last three lines of claim 1.

Claim 7 has been amended to depend from claim 1 (since claim 6 has been cancelled), and also to incorporate the definition for M from claim 6.

Claims 27-29 have been amended to incorporate the definition for M from claims 24-26, as a result of which claims 24-26 have been cancelled. Accordingly, claims 27-29 have further been amended to depend from claims 2-4, respectively.

Action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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